



DRAFT

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Nick Wolda

nwolda@thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov

Township hosts large turnout for Veterans Day Tribute at Town Green Park

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (November 14, 2014) – A large crowd was in attendance at Town Green Park to honor veterans at the Township's Veterans Day Tribute on Tuesday, November 11, 2014. Attendees were greeted at the entrance to the park with a 30-foot by 60-foot American flag hung from the ladders of two fire trucks from The Woodlands Fire Department, and all veterans who signed in received a commemorative challenge coin for their service.

The event began at 4:30, at the sound of Reveille played by trumpeter Troy Fulton from The Woodlands College Park High School Band and the Presentation of Colors by the College Park Color Guard. The national anthem was then played by nine trumpeters of the College Park High School Band, followed by a welcome from Township Chairman Bruce Tough.

Opening remarks were presented by U.S. Congressman Kevin Brady of the Eighth District of Texas, who was recently elected to his tenth term. Also on stage for opening remarks was David Trigg, Commander of the Corps at Texas A&M University and a graduate of The Woodlands High School.

The College Park Junior ROTC was also in attendance, and The College Park High School Marching Band performed a medley of armed forces anthems, with veterans of each branch standing or waving to accept recognition.

The veterans in attendance spanned three generations, and some of the veterans on stage included Coulson Tough, Bill Kolbe, Kenneth Sparks, Red LeSage, Bob Williams, Edward Hughes, Paul Lazzaro, Everett Ison, Bill Wingo, Chief Wayne Walker, Bryce Whetzel and Michael Brown.

The ceremony was also an opportunity to introduce the Greater Woodlands Public Arts Foundation's latest project, The Way Home Sculpture, which is part of the Veterans Memorial Monument that includes a Walk of Honor. The Way Home Statue commemorates Army Cpl. Cory C. Kusters and Army Cpl. Zach R. Endsley, two residents of The Woodlands who bravely gave their lives for their country in 2007. A special ground breaking ceremony then took place for the new monument and sculpture, which will be complete in time for Veterans Day in 2015.

"Veterans Day gives Americans the opportunity to celebrate the bravery and sacrifice of all U.S. veterans. This new memorial will be a lasting tribute to those who have given so much to preserve our freedom," announced Township Chairman Bruce Tough.



The event ended with a moment of silence to honor those who have given their lives in service to their county, followed by the playing of TAPS, again played by Troy Fulton of the College Park High School Band.

For more information on The Woodlands Township, please call 281-210-3800 or visit www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov.



Photo:
Township Board Director Mike Bass reads the proclamation of Veterans Day at the tribute in Town Green Park.



Photo:
Graduate of The Woodlands High School and current Commander of the Corps at Texas A&M University, David Trigg, addresses the crowd in opening remarks



Photo:

Township honors veterans at Town Green Park for 2014 Veterans Day. Pictured left to right: Township Board Chairman Bruce Tough, Congressman Kevin Brady, David Trigg, Red LeSage, Victoria Glover, Coulson Tough, Ed Hughes, Bill Kolbe, Bob Williams, Paul Lazzaro, Chief Wayne Walker, Bryce Whetzel, Michael Brown.